

FALL 2014

Alumni Columns

Northwestern State University Magazine





*Dr. Randall J. Webb,
1965, 1966
President
Northwestern State
University*

Dear Alumni:

This year is one of celebration for the city of Natchitoches as it marks its Tri-Centennial. A variety of events making this historic occasion are taking place throughout the year and Northwestern State University is involved in many of them.

Northwestern State has been an important part of Natchitoches for 130 of its 300 years. The city and university have forged a close working relationship. During my tenure as president, I have been privileged to work with three outstanding mayors, Joe Sampite, Wayne McCullen and Lee Posey, all NSU alumni, who have assisted the university in countless ways.

The city, along with various groups, sponsors and promotes university events and works with us to make campus activities successful. We know that the historic city of Natchitoches helps attract students to NSU. Our students feel welcome here and are able to live in a place that attracts visitors from around the world.

I hope you will plan to join us for the annual Homecoming celebration, which includes the football game against Incarnate Word on Oct. 11. If you have not visited the campus in several years, I think you will be pleased by recent improvements that have enhanced the campus. Homecoming will be a great opportunity to see former classmates and renew friendships.

Thank you for all you do to support Northwestern State.

Sincerely,

Dr. Randall J. Webb
President



*Dr. Chris Maggio,
1985, 1991
Assistant Vice
President of External
Affairs for University
Advancement*

My fellow alumni

As the Northwestern State family prepares for a transition in leadership, I have reflected upon the legacy that Dr. Randall J. Webb leaves us, one of unprecedented growth and change. Dr. Webb's accomplishments over the last 18 years will have a lasting impact on the university we all love. We thank him for his vision, his leadership and his steadfastness during times of uncertainty and we wish him well in his retirement.

Here on campus we are looking forward to a phenomenal Homecoming celebration this year. Last year's downtown Friday night Homecoming Festival was a huge success, drawing students, friends and alumni to the Natchitoches riverbank for music, food and visiting with old friends. I hope you will join us again this year for that event and for tailgating on Saturday prior to the Homecoming football game and the presentation of the Honor Court and alumni honorees.

As we move to a new era, I thank each and every one of you for your continued support of the university. Great things are on the horizon for Northwestern State and we continue to move forward to an even better tomorrow.

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STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Kyla Winey..... Lafayette, SGA President
Publisher..... Dr. Chris Maggio, 1985, 1991
Editor..... Leah Pilcher Jackson, 1994, 2011
Contributors..... David West
Doug Ireland, 1986
Photography..... Gary Hardamon
Design/Layout..... Beth McPherson Mann, 1975

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Monday, Oct. 6

11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The Kick-Off, Homecoming Block Party @ Student Union Plaza

Tuesday, Oct. 7

8 p.m. - Electric Run 5K & Bonfire

Wednesday, Oct. 8

7 p.m. - Let's Rave! Neon Glow Party @ Iberville Green

Thursday, Oct. 9

7 p.m. - Lipsync – Music through the Decades @ A.A. Fredericks Auditorium

Friday, Oct. 10

10 a.m. - Alumni Association Board Meeting @ Caspari Hall Conference Room, 3rd Floor

11 a.m. - Homecoming Golf Tournament @ NSU Rec Complex

12 p.m. - NSU Women's Soccer vs. Abilene Christian

1:30 p.m. - NSU Foundation Board Meeting @ Caspari Hall Conference Room, 3rd Floor

2 p.m. - NSU BAA Meet/Greet @ Best Western Conference Center, **Light refreshments provided*

5:30 p.m. - Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally

6:30 p.m. - Rockin' on the Riverbank Homecoming Festival, featuring live entertainment by the Chee-Weez

9 p.m. - Red Carpet Affair @ Natchitoches Country Club (955 Highway 3191), **Cash bar and refreshments provided*



Saturday, Oct. 11

9:30 a.m. - "Cycling for Sharon" Bicycle Ride & Presentation @ NSU Alumni Plaza

- Gallaspy Family College of Education & Human Development Reunion @ Teacher Education Commons Area

10 a.m. - Hall of Distinguished Educators Induction Ceremony @ Teacher Education Auditorium, Pod A

- N-Club Hall of Fame Induction @ Magale Recital Hall

11 a.m. - School of Business Reception for Outstanding Business awards @ Russell Hall, Natchitoches Room

- KNWD Reunion @ Student Union Ballroom

12:30 p.m. - Demon Regiment Open House @ James A. Noe Military Science Building

2 p.m. - Tailgating Activities @ Collins Pavilion/Demon Commons area

5:30 p.m. - Pregame Activities @ Turpin Stadium

6 p.m. - Northwestern State vs. Incarnate Word @ Turpin Stadium

7:30 p.m. - Halftime Ceremonies @ Turpin Stadium

9 p.m. - All Alumni Homecoming After Party @ Illuminations (7148 Highway 1 Bypass)



Northwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies (i.e., Title IX): Employees/Potential Employees – Veronica M. Biscoe, EEO Officer (318-357-6359); Students – Frances Conine, Dean of Students (318-357-5286). For Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) concerns, contact the Disability Support and Tutoring Director, Catherine Fauchoux, at 318-357-4460. Full disclosure statement: <http://universityplanning.nsu.edu/notice-of-non-discrimination/>. *Inquiries regarding employment applications should call Business Affairs (318-357-5446).

The Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches will hold the 60th annual Fall Pilgrimage/Tour of Homes Oct. 10, 11 and 12 in the Natchitoches Landmark Historic District and in Cane River country. For information, visit Natchitoches.com/event/fall-tour-homes.

Happy 300th Birthday, Natchitoches

Planning to visit Natchitoches? The city's Tri-Centennial Celebration continues.

Dear Alumni,

You would not believe the exciting things that have been happening in Natchitoches while you've been away! Natchitoches, the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase and home to your alma mater, has been celebrating its Tri-Centennial in a year-long celebration that has highlighted the best of our culture, our history, our food and most importantly our people! If you have not had a chance to visit us lately, we invite you to return and be a part of our celebration.

With events planned every weekend, come back and find out why Natchitoches was ranked one of the top eight small town getaways. From classic car shows and Civil War reenactments to Creole heritage celebrations and one of the top three holiday light displays in the nation, we are certain that Natchitoches has just what you need. We invite you take a look at the great schedule of events below and plan your trip to Natchitoches today. But be careful. Once you are here you may not want to leave.

Sincerely,
Mayor Lee Posey (1974)
City of Natchitoches

Schedule of Events

October 2014

- ▶ October 3 – 4: Return to the 50s Classic Car Show, Downtown Natchitoches
- ▶ **October 10: Northwestern State University's Rockin' on the Riverbank Homecoming Festival**
- ▶ October 10 – 12: Annual Pilgrimage: Tour of Homes, Natchitoches Historic District
- ▶ October 11 – 12: Grandpere's French Market, St. Augustine Church
- ▶ October 11 – Tri-Centennial Second Saturday Events
 - Live Entertainment on Riverbank Stage featuring La Cour Trio 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - **"Deep Rivers" Art Exhibition, Orville Hanchey Gallery 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**
 - "Creoles of Isle Brevelle" Exhibit, Lemee House 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 - **Northwestern State University Homecoming Game – Halftime Show "A Tribute to the Natchitoches Tri-Centennial" by the Spirit of Northwestern Marching Band**
- ▶ October 25: Sacred Places Tour, American Cemetery 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- ▶ October 31: Witch Way to Main Street, Front Street 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

November 2014

- ▶ November 1 – 2: Battle of Church Street Bridge Civil War Reenactment, Downtown Natchitoches
- ▶ **November 6 – 7: Creole Heritage Celebration, Creole Heritage Center**
- ▶ November 8: Tri-Centennial Second Saturday Events
 - Veteran's Day Car & Bike Show, Downtown Riverbank
 - "Paw-Paw Eaters" Exhibit, Lemee House 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- ▶ November 11: Unveiling of Natchitoches Veterans Park and Memorial
- ▶ November 22: "Turn on the Holidays" – The official start to the Natchitoches Christmas Festival Season. Come join in the Tri-Centennial Birthday Blowout featuring food, fun, and cake for all. Plus shopping on Front Street, Christmas lights, fireworks and live performance by Amanda Shaw.
- ▶ November 28 – 29: Holiday Kids Fest on the Downtown Riverbank (fireworks at 7:00 p.m. Saturday)

December 2014

- ▶ **December 3 – 5: Natchitoches/Northwestern State Christmas Gala, A.A. Fredericks Auditorium**
- ▶ December 6: 88th Annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival (ranked as the best holiday light display behind Rockefeller Center and Disneyland by Yahoo! Travel). Festival features parade with NSU Alum and Steel Magnolias author Robert Harling as Grand Marshal, live musical entertainment headlined by Cole Vosbury of NBC's The Voice, food, fun and fireworks!
- ▶ December 6: American Indian Day, Williamson Museum at Northwestern State University's Keyser Hall
- ▶ December 7 – Community Carols and Chorus, Magale Recital Hall.
- ▶ **December 9 – Lessons & Carols featuring NSU Chamber Choir, Minor Basilica of the Immaculate Conception**
- ▶ December 10, 12 & 13 – Holiday Tour of Homes, Natchitoches Historic District
- ▶ December 11 - 13: December Fete de Noel, Fort St. Jean Baptiste SHS
- ▶ December 12 – 13: Holiday Kids Fest on the Downtown Riverbank (fireworks at 7:00 p.m. Saturday)
- ▶ December 12, 13, 19 & 20: Changed by a Baby Boy Christmas Musical, Natchitoches Arts Center
- ▶ December 13: Les Amies Christmas Treasures Arts & Crafts Sale, Natchitoches Events Center
- ▶ December 19 – 20: Holiday Kids Fest on the Downtown Riverbank (fireworks at 7:00 p.m. Saturday)
- ▶ December 20: Cane River Creole Christmas, Badin-Roque House
- ▶ December 20: Christmas Down River, Cane River Creole National Historical Park
- ▶ December 27: Fireworks over Cane River Lake, 7:00 p.m.
- ▶ December 31: Fireworks over Cane River Lake, 7:00 p.m.



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Natchitoches, Louisiana's oldest city, is in the midst of a 300th birthday celebration with events planned throughout 2014 to commemorate the history, culture, people and cuisine of Natchitoches. If you are planning to visit Northwestern State anytime through the end of 2014, consider including some of these events in your travel itinerary.



October Events

October celebrates Creole Heritage month with a special Green Market on the grounds of St. Augustine Catholic Church on Saturday, Oct. 11. In conjunction, a special exhibition honoring the Creoles of Isle Brevelle will be on display at the Lemee House in downtown Natchitoches.

Other October events include the Robeline Heritage Festival Oct. 3-4, Return to the 50s Car Show Oct. 3-4, the Fall Tour of Homes Oct. 10-12 and the Cane River Green Market each Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon on the riverbank.

Another unique event planned for the fall is the Battle of Natchitoches Civil War Reenactment Oct. 31-Nov. 2. This event will include a reenactor's camp open to public viewing, a parade rolling through town ending in a battle scene, a string band concert and a period-style dance.

The actual reenactment will take place Sunday in downtown Natchitoches.

The event is free and open to the public. A special feature to the event will be a replica of an ironclad riverboat with five artillery pieces.

November Events

Natchitoches will honor war veterans in November, in addition to the Civil War Reenactment.

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Cane River National Heritage Area and the Cane River Creole National Historical Park, special events will be held Saturday, Nov. 8. On Nov. 22, the city will kick off the annual Turn on the Holidays Festival of Lights event. More than 300,000 Christmas lights will illuminate the downtown area for six weeks.

December Events

The 88th annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival of Lights will be Saturday, Dec. 6 with music, fireworks, parades and entertainment. With the city's legendary lights and more than 100 lighted set pieces along the riverbank, visitors to Natchitoches will find many unique attractions throughout the Historic District during the month of December, including fireworks displays every Saturday, shopping and other attractions.



For more information on the Christmas Events schedule, visit NatchitochesChristmas.com. For information on activities and events, visit natchitoches300.com, NatchitochesTricentennial.com or the Natchitoches Tricentennial Celebration and the Natchitoches Tourism pages on Facebook.

Great Raft brings first local brews to Shreveport since Prohibition

Three years ago, Andrew Nations was returning to Washington, D.C., after a visit to his native Shreveport when he was struck with a vision of opening a craft brewery in his hometown.

"Louisiana ranks 50th in breweries per capita, yet it ranks in the top 10 in consumption," he said. "I had a problem with that."

Nations told his wife Lindsay, "I don't want to come back until I have a business plan for a local brewery."

Nations started jotting down ideas on a legal pad – what kind of brewery, marketing ideas, etc. For three months, he did research on what beer was selling in north Louisiana and developed a plan to create Great Raft Brewing, the first brewery in Shreveport since before Prohibition.

"Craft beer is small, independent and individual," he said. "I wanted to go back to Shreveport because there was a need for it there."

"The hallmark of a good beer is one that tastes the same every time you drink it."

After putting together a business plan, the Nations moved forward with their vision, relocating back to Shreveport, finding a facility, hiring a brewmaster and assembling the operation.

Andrew and Lindsay chose the name Great Raft in recognition of the huge logjam that once clogged the Red River, which at one time extended from Shreveport to Campti, and was eventually removed under the initiative of steamboat builder and river captain Henry Miller Shreve.

"We chose the name Great Raft to educate people about the history of the area," Nations said.

Nations, a 2011 NSU grad, became interested in craft beer in Washington, where he fell in love with beer and beer culture started homebrewing and contributed to a beer blog. He is a certified beer server and completed a brewing



Andrew Nations

course at Siebel Institute of Technology Brewing School.

Great Raft served the first of its flagship beer, Southern Drawl, on Oct. 15, 2013, the first locally made beer served in Shreveport since the 1920s.

The first year, Great Raft produced 2,500 barrels. Now, demand is outstripping production.

"Shreveport is drinking a lot of beer. North Louisiana is drinking about twice as much as we anticipated," he said.

In addition to Southern Drawl, the brewery also produces a farmhouse ale, All My Tomorrows; a double IPA, Ermahgerd Hops, and seasonal brews. This month, you can find a Marzen for Oktoberfest and Awkward Uncle for the holidays.

With an environmental conscience, the company produces beer in recyclable aluminum cans. They also donate their wet weight byproducts to a local cattle farmer and spent grain is given to a local baker that makes dog treats to sell with proceeds benefitting Shreveport animal shelters.

After graduating from Byrd High School in 2000, Nations enrolled at Northwestern State, majored in general studies, joined Kappa Alpha and eventually landed a student job in Information Systems, assisting Tracy Brown with user support. That experience led to opportunities outside the classroom, working with CP-Tel. He left Natchi-

toches after his junior year "chasing his high school sweetheart to D.C." and found job opportunities with Amazon.com, Sirius SM and AT&T. Meanwhile, Nations' wife said she would not marry him without a college diploma, so he finished his degree in 2011.

Nations decided to focus on a super-clean German lager – something few craft breweries are producing – as its flagship because it's both approachable and impossible to hide behind. His inspiration is the pursuit of making a product that is perfect.

"The hallmark of a good beer is one that tastes the same every time you drink it," Nations said, explaining that craft brewers are limited to producing less than 6 million barrels of beer per year. With craft brewing comes a do-it-yourself attitude and a great camaraderie with other craft brewers.

Great Raft's reception in the region has been outstanding, demand is on the increase and the operation is already expanding.

"I've been impressed with the support of the Shreveport community who appreciate local beer that's good and fresh," he said. "Great beer gets all of us excited."

For more information on Great Raft, tasting room hours and other news visit their website at greatraftbrewing.com.

Hensel named associate editor of AOA journal

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA), the national professional membership organization for the nation's more than 104,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students, announces the appointment of Kendi L. Hensel, DO, PhD, as associate editor of *The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association (JAOA)*. Hensel is a 1993 graduate of Northwestern State University.

"As associate editor, I hope to encourage authors to use standardized terms so that our osteopathic literature is better understood and codified both within our profession and outside it," Dr. Hensel says. "Another goal is to encourage more evidence-based research within the osteopathic medical profession."

Dr. Hensel is AOA board certified in family medicine and neuromusculoskeletal medicine/osteopathic manipulative medicine. In addition to her position with the JAOA, she will continue to serve as an associate professor of osteopathic manipulative medicine at the University of North Texas Health Science Center Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNTHSC/TCOM) in Fort Worth.



Dr. Kendi Hensel

After receiving her undergraduate degree from Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches, Dr. Hensel earned her osteopathic medical degree from the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa. She completed her postdoctoral training at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine in Biddeford, Maine, and was one of the first graduates from an integrated family practice/neuromusculoskeletal medicine residency. After completing her residency, Dr. Hensel returned to her native Texas where she completed her doctorate degree in OMM clinical research and education at UNTHSC/TCOM in 2009.

DOs are licensed physicians who can prescribe medication and practice in all specialty areas, including surgery, in the United States. They complete four years of medical school followed by graduate medical education through internship and residency programs typically lasting three to eight years. In addition, DOs receive extra training in the musculoskeletal system, providing them with an in-depth knowledge of the ways that illness or injury in one part of the body can affect another.

Alumna's work with Wings of Hope supports global humanitarian work

"I believe in helping others," said Karen Sandifer Schulte, director of corporate partnerships for Wings of Hope, an international humanitarian organization that provides assistance, support and advocacy for impoverished people in 47 countries around the world.

Schulte joined Wings of Hope a year and a half ago to create the Champions for Kids program, a branch of the organization that fosters corporate partnerships to support the Wings of Hope mission: delivering humanitarian aid to the impoverished. This can include providing guidance and managing resources to help the poor, providing medical relief and transportation, patient advocacy or implementing poverty reduction strategies for a defined region.

"Wings of Hope is worldwide organization that does some amazing things and changes lives all the time," Schulte said. "My job is to identify Champions for Kids, corporations or small companies who want to lock arms with us in bringing people back to self-sufficiency."

Based in St. Louis, Missouri, Wings of Hope was established 51 years ago by four local business executives who heard of a nurse in Kenya who needed help providing services for women and children. As news of the organization spread, requests for assistance came from around the country and throughout the world.

"There are people who have medical complexities who don't know who to call," Schulte said. "Sometime the patient has run out of options. They can contact Wings of Hope and we can find a doctor, make appointments and be an advocate if necessary," Schulte explained. The organization can utilize resources and partnerships to connect patients to specialists at research and university hospitals and provide

safe transportation at no cost. The organization is volunteer-based in which pilots, medical personnel or paramedics travel with patients to ensure they reach their destination safely. Wings for Hope has a four-star charity navigator rating with 90 cents of every dollar put toward services and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Schulte said Wings of Hope helps impoverished people not only by providing for their immediate needs, but also by educating them on how to improve their situation when possible and promote engagement in their communities.

"We not only feed them, we show them how to grow food and help them do it on their own. If they need water, we show them how to dig a well," she said.

A New Orleans native, Schulte earned a degree in journalism with emphasis in public relations at Northwestern in 1979. She credited former instructor Franklin Preston with "teaching me everything I know about public relations" and coordinating her internship with the Eye and Ear Institute. As a student, she wrote for the Current Sauce and worked at the Natchitoches Times. After graduation, her first job was at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, followed by employment in the public affairs office of the Louisiana Land and Exploration Company.

Schulte's work with Wings of Hope supports the humanitarian organization's vision for peace and hope for all mankind as she seeks partnerships to support the Wings of Hope mission.

"We extend the hand of human kindness because it's the right thing to do."

For more information on Wings of Hope visit wings-of-hope.org.

Builder-designer team dazzling Acadiana with custom showstoppers

"While attending NSU, I worked summers doing construction to earn a few bucks to hit the books in the fall. I remember thinking that when I earned my degree I would never look to a hammer or shovel ever again to make a living. Famous last words, right?"

Clifton Bolgiano (1981) and his wife Jodi are a highly sought after builder/designer team in the Lafayette area and their company, Bolgiano Custom Homes, was featured in the May/June edition of Acadiana Builder Magazine. Building 32 homes over the past eight years ranging from \$500,000 to \$4 million, the two have built a reputation for unique, custom features and luxurious appointments in each project they complete.



Jodi and Clifton Bolgiano

"Our projects are always custom-built and usually fully decorated," Clifton said. "We emphasize unique and creative details. Our custom touches and high-quality outcomes have been keys to our success."

Clifton said he and Jodi cut their teeth on a couple of self-contracted personal homes.

"Our debut project as custom builders was a 5,000-square-foot home that featured reclaimed white pine floors, French blue interior plastered walls and ceilings and reclaimed antique doors from a dismantled estate in France," he said. "We even managed to salvage several Capodimonte hand-painted porcelain chandeliers, which we hung in each of our daughters' three bedrooms."

The Bolgiano's youngest daughter's bedroom featured a Victorian cottage built inside her bedroom.

"What you saw upon entering the bedroom was the façade of the cottage protruding about three feet through the far bedroom wall," he explained. "The original idea was to construct a child's playhouse inside the bedroom, but we decided to construct a full-sized cottage that literally popped through the bedroom wall. Inside, it was a wonderful art studio with heart pine floors, reclaimed wood windows and doors and several creative stations for kids to draw, paint and display their work."

When the house sold a few years later, the space was easily converted into a teenager's video and game station hangout.

The couple's most difficult project was one built in an exclusive Lafayette subdivision where space constraints of the site and logistical challenges of the established neighborhood made it difficult to execute on a daily basis.

"It took a little longer to build but it turned out incredible and in the end outcomes, not speed, define great building," he said.

With Acadiana's rich Cajun and French culture, the predominantly most popular architectural style is French country, but the Bolgianos also earned their stripes with Hays Town, Tuscan and traditional and the increasingly popular transitional style.

"We have earned recognition for combining Old World elements of French, Tuscan and Hays Town, along with the fresh, light and airy clean lines characteristic of transitional, sort of an Old World meets New World," he said.

After graduating from Northwestern State with a bachelor's degree in journalism, Bolgiano discovered an appetite for business and a talent for sales.

"I had the good fortune of starting a career path in soft contact lenses," he said. "After 20-plus years in that industry, fate paid me a visit. The California-based company I was employed by decided to take their stock public and sell the company just a few years later. I was left with a new stock option and dollars in my pocket, but nonetheless unemployed. I decided it was time to answer the burning entrepreneurial yearnings in my heart, but to do what? A mentor of mine once said that if I ever wanted to go into business for myself to make sure I knew a thing or two about the business I was considering, lest I lose my shirt in the offing. I knew contact lenses and construction. Enough said."

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Rep. Henry Burns with Legislative Assistant Dodie Horton.

Legislators select Burns for Hudson Cup

Rep. Henry Burns (1970) was named this year's recipient of the Hudson Cup, presented to the Louisiana legislator voted by fellow members as being the most cooperative and thoughtful member of the House for the 2014 Legislative session. The Hudson Cup is sponsored by the Family of Dr. Hudson, a former legislator that was known to exhibit qualities of being a gentleman, no matter what the circumstance or level of controversy that accompanies many emotional issues which surfaces in debate.

Burns was also selected by the Louisiana National Guard as its top supporter from the public sector for the Louisiana National Guard's Youth Challenge Program. The Youth Challenge Program provides a second chance in life and successes for many young people. This year the Youth Challenge Program at Camp Minden, eclipsed the 18,000+ graduate mark. The program revitalizes the life courses for so many with GED's, college scholarships, job opportunities and ROTC scholarships. The award was presented to Rep. Burns recently in New Orleans at their annual Youth Challenge Program Gala.

1973 Classmates



"First time we have seen each other since graduation day at NSU in 1973!" wrote Jo Pease, right, who met up with Patty Wiggins Hrapman, left, during the 44th annual Louisiana Youth Seminar. Jo is founder of the youth leadership seminar and a member of Northwestern State's alumni hall of distinction, the Long Purple Line. Patty is director of curriculum, instruction and professional development at Holy Cross School in New Orleans and a member of NSU's Hall of Distinguished Educators and the Alumni Association's board of directors.

Builder-designer team continued from page 6

Clifton graduated in 1981 with a degree in broadcast journalism, with a turn as general manager at KNWD, which he said "made the NSU experience."

"KNWD was 100 percent student volunteer the first few years," he said. "After a loan to get the station up and running was repaid, the station charter provided that a portion of its annual operating budget be used to provide scholarships for executive staff members. I am proud to say that I was selected by the Student Government Association as KNWD's first general manager under the new scholarship provision."

With FM just coming into prominence, KNWD had enough interest from students they had a live DJ 24/7. He also remembered the broadcast journalism majors began working more with the print journalism students, "a creative leap forward that strengthened both our programs."

"KNWD was so incredibly fun. We were serious about it, but at the same time, we had so much fun."

Clifton worked in broadcasting for a very short time after

college before seeking other career avenues.

"Broadcast was a great creative outlet and homebuilding is gratifying because you get to put a lot of creativity into your project," he said. He has lost track of how many homes he and Lori have built, fully furnished and moved in and out of in the last few years.

"My wife and I both have said that as much as we like dreaming up the next house, designing it and seeing it's completion, it's almost anticlimactic to move in," he said. "I give credit to my wife for our success because I've seen her really flourish as an interior decorator. People seek us out because when the home is complete, it's furnished, there are window treatments and other décor and the homes have creative, thoughtful details."

Clifton and Lori are the proud parents of three daughters. Their middle daughter Madison is a freshman in the Louisiana Scholars' College and a Presidential Ambassador recruiting future Demons.

Turnipseed, colleagues win awards for political exposé

Jon Turnipseed was one of a team of journalists to receive several of the highest honors bestowed upon professionals who work in electronic media for his collaborative work on “Louisiana Purchased,” a project that revealed illegal activities and a lack of ethics enforcement in Louisiana political campaign activities. Turnipseed is a 2005 graduate of Northwestern State University, where he earned a degree in journalism.

The project earned the team a Peabody Award and the national Edward R. Murrow Award from the Radio Television Digital News Association. “Louisiana Purchased” won the category in News Series, Small Market Television. The investigation also won a Headliner Award as well as three regional Murrow Awards.

The Peabody is presented each year to the best work in electronic media in the United States. The Peabody’s international roster of 46 winners produced everything from news and documentaries to entertainment and children’s programming. Other winners for journalism include, WBZ-TV for its coverage of the Boston Marathon bombings and a pair of investigations in Seattle and Nashville.

“Louisiana Purchased” was the first major collaborative project between WVUE-TV, where Turnipseed is employed, and the Times-Picayune/NOLA.com. The series began running in October 2013 and is still ongoing. The Peabody award honored work from last year. According to Turnipseed, a total of 4,800 hours worked on the project in 2013 beginning with brainstorming in September.

“More than a million Louisiana campaign contributions and expenditures were examined by the team and input into an interactive online database, to allow us to examine the influence given to lawmakers. A sort of who gives how much to who, and what possible influence does that money have? All of the television stories were supplemented with newspaper articles and online resources from our partners,” Turnipseed said.

“I was the photographer and editor of all the content as far as the televi-



Jon Turnipseed

sion side went,” he explained. “I was fortunate to have been promoted to the investigative photographer position in October 2013, when another former Northwestern State grad and award-winning photographer Donnie Pearce left the position to move to Denver with his wife and children to be with family. I knew it was a great opportunity to work with an acclaimed investigative journalist, Lee Zurik. Lee was the brains behind the project along with Manuel Torres with TP/NOLA.com. The whole project took a lot of coordination, over 75 interviews and multiple days combing through records and shooting video of various locations throughout the state.

The project kept Turnipseed working many late nights away from his wife and two daughters, working and editing stories, but “it always seemed to matter, which made it easier.”

“When we found out in early April that we won a Peabody award, it was like one of those surreal moments,” Turnipseed said. “I got a call early in the morning from Lee congratulating me and I had to ask him again if he said a ‘Peabody?’ It was so cool, and then to see the list of fellow winners including major TV shows like ‘House of Cards,’ ‘Breaking Bad,’ ‘Scandal,’ and legends like Tom Brokaw and Charlie Rose. I was super excited to be attending a ceremony with them in NYC.

Everyone involved was just thrilled to win the award.”

Turnipseed said there are no categories for the Peabody, but selections are made by unanimous vote by the judges for excellence in broadcast programming.

“There were some essential questions as criteria for the award... Does the story matter? Did the story affect change? Was the story worth telling? Once again, it was such an honor to be given the prestigious Peabody award,” he said.

For more information on “Louisiana Purchased,” visit fox8live.com/category/273227/louisiana-purchased.

Turnipseed recalled Mary Brocato as a special mentor during his time at Northwestern State.

“She always did a great job stressing the importance of learning as many aspects of television as possible and be versatile,” he said. “She never sugar coated anything. She taught me and had a realistic approach to teaching us what the real world was going to be like outside of college. I certainly learned a lot of my skills at NSU such as shooting, editing, interviewing, etc. I’m grateful for the knowledge that I learned while attending NSU and can honestly say it did a lot to form my career in the right path. I hope to continue to do meaningful work in the field of journalism and truly enjoy my profession.”

Spotlights

Sammie Cribbs (2008) was named chief nursing officer at North Arkansas Regional Medical Center, Harrison, Arkansas, effective July 1.

Cribbs RN, BSN, received her associates degree of Nursing from Louisiana Tech where she received the Clinical Excellence Award. She continued her education at Northwestern State University for her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. Currently she is going for a Master's of Science degree in Nursing Adult Health at Arkansas State University. Cribbs has been working in NARMC since 2007 starting as a med/surg charge nurse before being promoted to clinical documentation specialist and to her current position of director of nursing.

"Dirty Things," a song by singer/songwriter **Wendy Colonna** (1999), was featured on a Coca-Cola commercial last summer and Starbucks has added her music to their in-store playlist.

"Dirty Things" was included on Colonna's 2013 album "Nectar."

Fans can follow Colonna through her website wendycolonna.com.

Airmaster Aerator of DeRidder received the prestigious Lantern Award for manufacturing excellence in Region 5, presented annually to the company that exhibits leadership and innovation in product manufacturing, design and distribution. **Dean Caldwell**, a graduate of NSU, is president of the company that won out of competition with other finalist companies from Region 5 that includes Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jefferson Davis parishes. The awards presentation took place in June.

Founded in 1999, Airmaster Aerator designs and builds aerators for industrial and municipal applications worldwide.

Dr. Jeff Totten (1977, 1979) was promoted to associate professor of marketing and granted tenure at McNeese State University in Lake Charles. Dr. Totten joined the McNeese faculty in 2006. He is married to Dr. Barbara Schuldt, an MIS professor at Southeastern Louisiana University.

Erin Shocklee (2011) who earned a degree in Addiction Studies, was

recognized by the Louisiana Association of Substance Abuse Counselors & Trainers (LASACT) as the State of Louisiana Counselor-In-Training of the Year Award for 2014. She was also asked to serve on the LASACT State Board representing District 7 (Northwest region).

Jimmie Walker joined Xavier University of Louisiana's department of athletics and recreation earlier this year as administrative specialist.

Walker, a native of New Orleans, will manage all procurement and purchasing services of the athletics department, coordinate social media efforts and create video content for the department website and news media.

Walker interned for the past year with the New Orleans Saints and the New Orleans Pelicans and edited and produced video content for both teams' websites. He received bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern State University, where he gained experience in digital media, radio, television, newspaper and the yearbook.

Jean-Louis earns Sustained Excellence Award for effective family, community therapy

MST Services awarded Phillip Jean-Louis Jr. (2008) with a Sustained Excellence award for his outstanding performance to Louisiana's juvenile justice system. MST Services, the organization that presented the award, administers the global dissemination of the treatment model known as Multisystemic Therapy, commonly referred to as MST. MST is internationally recognized for being one of the worlds most effective treatment models for serious, violent and continual juvenile offenders.

The Sustained Excellence award is given out each year to recognize teams and therapists on their sustained levels of performance. Selection for these awards was based on feedback from the families about their experience with MST. The award is presented to teams and therapists that rank in the top one percent among their peers in 12 different countries.

"Phillip has been a vital and influential person at MST and within our juvenile justice community," says Joe Boggs, chief operating officer for MST Services. "His ability to work so well with more than 100 families over the past four years has shown his dedication and enthusiasm for our company. We are extremely honored to present Phillip with this award."

As a multisystemic therapist for Life Changing Solutions, Jean-Louis provides therapeutic home and community-based services to adolescents and their families. He has consistently earned a score of 90 percent and higher on his MST therapist adherence report from these families.

Jean-Louis received his bachelor's degree from Northwestern State University and a master's degree at Grand Canyon University in science addiction counseling. Jean-Louis Jr. is currently completing his second master's degree at Grand Canyon University in professional counseling.



Phillip Jean-Louis

Pi Kapp alumni named to fraternity's Thirty Under 30 list

Two alumni of Pi Kappa Phi at Northwestern State University are among the Fraternity's inaugural 'Thirty Under 30' honorees. Wil Adams and Lane Luckie, both initiates of the Beta Omicron Chapter, received the recognition, which seeks to recognize young alumni for their post-college achievements.



Lane Luckie and Wil Adams

Adams and Luckie were nominated to be included in the initial Thirty Under 30 class by their peers, older alumni and friends of the fraternity. After several weeks of initial legwork by the Pi Kappa Phi alumni engagement team, a committee of volunteers reviewed all of the nominees in areas such as impact, leadership and service, and awards and recognition. The list of nominations was narrowed to 30 finalists. Both will receive special recognition at the fraternity's convention this August in Atlanta.

Adams is a quickly rising financial advisor for Edward Jones Investments, opening his own branch in Bossier City in 2011. Adams graduated from NSU in 2009 and now serves as a member of NSU Foundation Founders Circle, NSU Alumni Association Board of Directors and Beta Omicron Alumni Association Board of Directors. As a student, he served the Beta Omicron Chapter as Secretary, Vice Archon, cycled Gear Up Florida (2007) and was IFC president. Since signing on with Edward Jones, he has made an impact in north Louisiana by working with successful individuals and business owners by offering fee-based investing, retirement plans, 401k rollovers, annuities, life insurance and more.

"I was very humbled and honored when I got word about receiving this award," Adams said. "NSU and Pi Kappa Phi played a large role in my development as an undergrad. Both taught me the importance of being involved in my community. The connections and relationships built while I was a student led me to my career at Edward Jones and I couldn't be happier."

Luckie is an example of someone who has had both an outstanding career and a track record of dedication and impact as an alumnus at an early age. A 2008 NSU graduate, Luckie served his chapter as Chaplain and was a member of student government and homecoming court. By age 23, Lane had become the lead anchor for the primetime news at KTRE-TV. He has since moved on to KLTU, anchoring the highest-rated morning show in east Texas. His diversity as an anchor, reporter and producer has led to notoriety in his field. Lane served as the founding chapter advisor for Iota Zeta (Stephen F. Austin) and currently serves as chapter advisor to Theta Pi (Texas-Tyler), President of the Beta Omicron Alumni Association, board member for the NSU Alumni Association and as a facilitator for Mid Year Leadership Conference, Ladder of Risk

and ASTP. His efforts earned him the fraternity's Facilitator of the Year award and resulted in Beta Omicron earning the Alumni Chapter of the Year award in 2013.

"I'm so humbled and honored by this recognition," Luckie said. "Pi Kappa Phi and Northwestern State provided me with unmatched leadership opportunities as a student and I genuinely believe they were critical to finding success in my dream career so quickly. I've benefitted first-hand from the numerous dedicated alumni who invest their time in mentoring student leaders, so it is very important to me to remain connected to my alma mater. Paying it forward by working with student leaders at NSU has been a very rewarding experience."

Alumni of 25 different chapters of all sizes, locations and age are represented in the group of 30, painting a broad, yet distinguished, view of Pi Kappa Phi as a national organization.

The recipients come from all types of backgrounds, and were nominated for all types of outstanding achievement: volunteerism, professional achievement, etc. While the qualifications of the honor can vary, all of the recipients have in common a commitment to fraternal values.

PI KAPPA PHI



Members of the Mitchell family gathered to congratulate matriarch Pinkye Simpson Mitchell on receiving the Nth Degree from Northwestern State University. At 100 years of age, Mitchell is one of the school's oldest living graduates. Seated from left are NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb with the honoree. Standing are John and Louise Martin, Glenda Davis, Bruce and Nita Mitchell and Dr. Chris Maggio, assistant vice president for External Affairs.

Centenarian, 1931 graduate honored with Nth degree

Northwestern State University honored one of its oldest living graduates with a special recognition in celebration of her 100th birthday. Pinkye Simpson Mitchell of Natchitoches was presented with the Nth Degree, a special honor that recognizes individuals who go the extra mile in meritorious service to mankind and whose professional responsibilities and various other roles in making the world a better place are carried out to the Nth Degree.

"It is with great pride we confer this degree, one of exceptionally high honor to Mrs. Mitchell," said NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb. "Along with her, we honor her family and extended family."

Mitchell was born April 3, 1914, and spent her childhood on a large farm on Middle Creek Road near Many. After graduating from Many High School in 1931, Mitchell, who was one of 12 children, became the first person in her family to attend college. She lived in the dormitory at Normal for a time and worked in the dining hall to help with tuition expenses. She later commuted from Many and earned her teaching certificate, which specialized in kindergarten-primary, in two years. Her teaching certificate is dated Feb. 6, 1933, and is good for her lifetime.

Mitchell began teaching at Alliance School near Zwolle in 1933. She married Willard Mitchell in 1936 and continued to teach until shortly before her first child was born in 1937. She was a homemaker until the youngest of her seven children was five years old and went to work for the State Welfare Department from 1949-1973. She still remembers the exact dates she went to work and retired, as well as former coworkers.

Mitchell's student days at Normal were quite different from the modern student's. Students were required to sign in and out to leave campus and see the dean if any of the strict rules of behavior were broken. She displayed a handwritten essay for professor John Ropp on "A Well-Rounded Vocabulary" in which one misspelled word earned her a B +.

"We are pleased to recognize Mrs. Mitchell with the Nth Degree in honor of the remarkable milestone of reaching 100 years of age," Webb said.

Mitchell's children are the late Charles Mitchell, Louise Martin and husband John, Bruce Mitchell and wife Nita, Glenda Davis, Kerry Mitchell, Keith Mitchell and Kent Mitchell and LeAnne.

Nth Degrees recognize meritorious service

NSU President Dr. Randall J. Webb honored two alumni with a special honor to recognize their meritorious service to others. The university presented Homer Greer Jr. of Magnolia, Arkansas, and A.D. Williams of Haynesville with the Nth Degree.

A 1950 alumnus and long-time university supporter, Greer has long been dedicated to supporting NSU's Dear School of Creative and Performing Arts. He is a board member of the Magale Foundation and championed causes for NSU. As a student, Greer was a member of the Demon band and fondly remembers playing with the Demonaires. He is a retired senior vice president of First National Bank of Magnolia, Arkansas.

Although not a graduate of NSU, Williams has been a long-time supporter of Northwestern State.

"He recommended and helped many students from Haynesville to NSU and has helped many students get a college education who might have never had the opportunity or understood the process without his guidance," Webb said.

Williams is a long-time and respected member of the Haynesville community where he served as a teacher and administrator and continues to work with the Housing Authority.



Homer Greer Jr.



A.D. Williams

CP-Tel supports scholarships for students in company's service area

Meredith Machen of Natchitoches was named the recipient of this year's CP-Tel Endowed Scholarship awarded through the Northwestern State University Foundation.

Machen is an incoming freshman at Northwestern State and plans to pursue a degree in criminal justice. She graduated from Natchitoches Central High School and is the daughter of Mark and Margie Machen. She plans to use the award to pay for books and other expenses.

"I really appreciate the scholarship," Machen said. "Money doesn't grow on trees and every little bit helps."

CP-Tel established the scholarship a decade ago with preference to graduates from Lakeview, Pleasant Hill, Mansfield, St. Mary's, Natchitoches Central, Many and Central Grand Cane high schools whose parents, grandparents or legal guardians are CP-Tel customers or work for a business that is a CP-Tel customer. Eligible students must graduate with a high school cumulative grade point average of 2.5 or higher and must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA throughout college. The scholarship is awarded to a freshman for a four-year duration. Over the years, the company made annual contributions to the scholarship, which has grown enough for the award amount to be increased.

"CP-Tel is honored to award our scholarship to Meredith," said CP-Tel CEO Mike Fox. "We had a number of very



CP-Tel CEO Mike Fox presented the CP-Tel Endowed Scholarship to Megan Machen of Natchitoches. The four-year scholarship is awarded to a student from Natchitoches, Sabine or DeSoto parish. From left are Fox, Machen and Jill Bankston, NSU's associate director of Development.

qualified applicants and Meredith was selected as the most deserving based upon her high school academic record, test scores, and vision for her future. We are confident that she will be an outstanding student at NSU."

CP-Tel also recently established a scholarship to benefit a student majoring in engineering technology. The scholarship will be awarded to an ET student in the amount of \$1,000 for one year.

CP-Tel is a local telecommunications company headquartered in Natchitoches and currently serves Natchitoches, Sabine and DeSoto parishes. The company is active in supporting local communities and provides support for athletic, music and scholastic programs in local schools.

La Cap contributes to Wann Scholarship



La Capitol Federal Credit Union made a donation to the Northwestern State University Foundation for the Jack Wann Scholarship, which benefits students in the Theatre and Dance program. Patrick Hollier of La Cap, front left, made the presentation to Northwestern State theatre and dance major Alisha Munds as fellow majors Hannah Hays, Hannah Williams, Hally Lambert, Tyler Price, Kathleen Kerner, Michael Carrier, Holli Conway, Jay Canova and Sally Iskenderian of La Cap look on. Wann was a member of Northwestern State's faculty from 1990 until 2003, building one of the top undergraduate theatre programs in the South. Under Wann, Northwestern State gained accreditation from the National Association of Schools of Theatre. More than 40 of his students worked in summer stock companies each year and a number of his former students are working professionally. Wann returns to NSU annually to teach a class on Shakespeare or Chekhov and Ibsen.

Burns continues support of Anacoco students



Kristen Elizabeth Eusay, a graduate of Anacoco High School, was selected to receive the Billy John and Judith Burns Scholarship, presented to an AHS student who plans to enroll at Northwestern State University. Burns presented the award during a senior awards program May 12. Kristen is the daughter of Jock and Brenda Eusay and was selected on the basis of academics, extra-curricular activities, good citizenship and school spirit. She intends to pursue a degree in radiology. Burns established the scholarship in memory of his wife, Judith Ellen Burns, who passed away on October 12, 2011.

Heroic Joe Delaney story will be told through ESPN's "30 For 30"

A film crew focusing on the remarkable and heroic story of Houghton native, Northwestern State two-sport All-American and Kansas City Chiefs Pro Bowl running back Joe Delaney, who died in a 1983 attempt to rescue three drowning children, visited NSU July 7 working on an ESPN "30 For 30" short film.

The crew of nearly a dozen filmmakers from Los Angeles, Shreveport and Nashville spent nearly five hours doing interviews and shooting footage at the NSU Athletic Fieldhouse, along with Turpin Stadium, where Delaney was a two-time All-America running back in 1979-80 for the Demons, and the Walter P. Ledet Track Complex, where Delaney, Mark Duper, Victor Oatis and Mario Johnson competed before capturing the 1981 NCAA championship in the 4x100 meter relay, earning All-America honors.

They also got shots of some current-day Demon football players working out on their own inside Turpin Stadium, as the 2014 NSU team prepared for the start of preseason camp.

Heading the film crew was producer Jeremy Wheeler and director Grant Curtis, most recently an executive producer for 2013's well-received "Oz the Great and Powerful" film, a producer on the "Spiderman" series of three hit movies and the producer of the 2000 supernatural thriller film "The Gift" starring Cate Blanchett and co-written by Billy Bob Thornton. Two of Delaney's teammates at NSU, Jack "Britt" Brittain Jr. and Van Kyzar, were extensively interviewed about Delaney. The crew interviewed Delaney's widow, Carolyn, and his college coach at Northwestern, A.L. Williams, among others a day later in Ruston and Houghton, Delaney's hometown.

Production was expected to last into September. No tentative air date has been set for the piece, which may be distributed on multiple ESPN platforms.

ESPN Films' 30 for 30 documentary series has been nominated for television's highest honor, the Emmy Award. The series highlights important people in the sports world and sports history from the point of view of feature filmmakers. Delaney was the 1981 AFC Rookie of the Year for the Chiefs and played in the Pro Bowl. Pro Football Hall of Fame coach Marv Levy, who drafted Delaney in the second round of the 1981 draft and coached him in 1981-82, said Delaney was one of the five best players he coached in his 45-year career, including nearly 30 years in the NFL.

Delaney died June 29, 1983, trying to save three children from drowning in a pond at an amusement park in Monroe. One survived. Delaney left behind his wife and their three young daughters. His heroic act matched his selfless lifestyle and coupled with his astounding athletic career to make him an instant icon in north Louisiana far beyond the sports world.

His No. 44 Demon football jersey was retired at halftime of his final game at NSU. Since his death, no Kansas City player has worn his No. 37. He is immortalized in several ways at Northwestern, including plaques at Turpin Stadium and the Ledet Complex, and with the permanent football team captains receiving Joe Delaney Memorial Leadership Awards annually. The Demons' spring football game has been known



Britt Brittain being interviewed by ESPN

as the Joe Delaney Bowl since 1989 and an award in his name goes each year to an outstanding supporter of NSU Athletics.

Delaney was posthumously awarded the Presidential Citizen's Medal from President Ronald Reagan, presented by then Vice President George H.W. Bush to the Delaney family. Delaney is enshrined in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame, the College Football Hall of Fame and the Chiefs' Ring of Honor at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City.

Athletic Department seeking films, videos for archives

Efforts to assist the ESPN film crew working on the 30 For 30 short film about Joe Delaney provided a challenge because of the university's lack of archival game footage. Alumni, especially former athletes, coaches or athletic staff can help.

In the recent case, an informal search discovered a former Delaney teammate who had four game films, which were converted to DVD copies and added to the NSU archives along with being provided to the ESPN crew.

Anyone who has some game film or video, or may have an idea of who may have that type material, are asked to contact sports information director Doug Ireland at ireland@nsula.edu or call him at 318-357-6467. Along with game film or video from any sport, footage of campus scenes and activities is of interest.

A 1981 fire destroyed Bullard Hall on campus, wiping out decades of athletic records and archival materials. Even since then, there is very little game film or videotape in NSU's possession.

Footage from games and events through the years involving NSU teams and students are of interest.

Tynes Hildebrand presented with leadership award at Sports Hall of Fame induction

Tynes Hildebrand had to travel over some dirt roads to get from his home in Florien to Northwestern State so he could enroll and play basketball for legendary coach H. Lee Prather's Demons in 1950. Since then, he's paved the way for many others.

His far-reaching impact as a coach, director of athletics and nationally-renowned college basketball administrator earned Hildebrand a spot in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and he was enshrined as one of two recipients of the 2014 Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award in June with nine other inductees.

Except for two years of military service (1955-57), Hildebrand has been rooted in Natchitoches, but his impact has been far-reaching and especially in recent years, so have his travels. Since 1997, after retiring a year earlier following 13 years as athletic director at Northwestern, Hildebrand has been on the road frequently, particularly in the winter as a monitor, trainer, observer and evaluator of NCAA Division I college basketball referees. Since 2006, he has been one of four regional advisors who spends the regular season traveling the Midwest and South to rate officials, helping improve their performance and participating in choosing the referees for the NCAA Tournament.

"Tynes has been a dearly valued member of the national officiating effort serving as an NCAA Men's Basketball Regional Advisor for the last several years. The respect that the officiating and coaching communities have for Tynes is enormous," said Dan Gavitt, vice president of the NCAA's men's basketball championships. "His success and experience as a head coach and athletic director at Northwestern State have been invaluable in his role in officiating.

"More than anything, Tynes has been a genuine friend and mentor to so many in intercollegiate athletics with a warmth, class, and style that is unique and personal," said Gavitt. "His openness in sharing his wisdom makes me feel good about college athletics," said

John Underwood, the Big XII Conference supervisor of officials since 2002 after a long career wearing a whistle as one of the country's most respected referees. "I am proud to be among the many student-athletes and co-workers that he has influenced over the years to be the best you can be. One of his comments that I use every day is a 'short pencil is better than a long memory.'"

His current role in college basketball has kept him busy year-round, not just during the season, at a time in life when many people in their early 80s are resting and reflecting. If he were spending time looking back, it would be reviewing a career marked with significant achievement and great influence in coaching and administration.

Hildebrand was recently named one of the Top 100 Players in Demon Basketball History during NSU's hoops centennial celebration in 2013. As head coach at Natchitoches High School from 1957-65, he guided the Red Devils to six district championships and the 1958 state title. He was hired as Northwestern's head coach in 1965 and won 191 games in 15 seasons, making four NAIA postseason tournament appearances before steering the program into NCAA and Division I status. USA head coach Henry Iba had Hildebrand and Bob Knight, among other young coaches, helping evaluate players in tryouts for America's 1972 Olympic basketball team. Along the way, Hildebrand became good friends with iconic UCLA coach John Wooden. He coached current Notre Dame head coach Mike Brey, who calls Hildebrand one of his three major influences in coaching, along with two Basketball Hall of Fame members, Duke's Mike Krzyzewski and Morgan Wooten of DeMatha High School.

After three years as the university placement director, helping graduates find jobs, Hildebrand became NSU's athletic director in 1983, using creative approaches that maximized resources while developing a virtual incubator for some of today's more



Louisiana Sports Writers Association president Jim Kleinpeter (left) and Louisiana Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne (right) present Tynes Hildebrand with the Dave Dixon Louisiana Sports Leadership Award, resolutions from the Louisiana Senate and House of Representatives, and enshrinement in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame at the June 28 induction ceremony. Hildebrand was among 11 people in the 2014 Hall of Fame induction class.

successful athletic administrators with an intern program. Hildebrand helped broker admission of NSU and other institutions such as Stephen F. Austin, Sam Houston State, Nicholls State and Southeastern Louisiana into the Southland Conference, which has evolved into a highly-regarded league thanks in part to his influence.

"Very few sports figures in Louisiana have played a more important role, for such a long time, than Tynes."

—Don Landry,
2009 Dixon Award winner

Read more on Tynes Hildebrand in the Lagniappe section of this Alumni Columns issue online at NorthwesternAlumni.com



Jim Willis (1959, 1967) was honored May 17 by the Alexandria Aces professional baseball team. Willis, a Boyce native, threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Aces' 2006 season opening game at Bringhurst Park in Alexandria. After completing his athletic career as a baseball pitcher and basketball player for the Northwestern State College Demons, Willis pitched for the Aces in the late 1940s while beginning his career as a teacher and coach. He loved up quickly in professional baseball. In 1952-53, Willis became the first Northwestern alumnus to reach the major leagues, pitching for the Chicago Cubs. It was nearly 50 years before another Demon made the big leagues.

N Club announces 2014 inductees

Two-time USA Olympian Kenta Bell and major league baseball pitcher Brian Lawrence headline seven Northwestern State athletic greats who will be honored by the Graduate N Club at its annual Hall of Fame Ceremony on Homecoming morning, Saturday, Oct. 11, at 10 o'clock in the Magale Recital Hall.

Joining Bell and Lawrence among the six Hall of Fame inductees are three football standouts: All-American Adrian Hardy, the second-leading all-time tackler in Ed Moses, and Ed Orgeron, whose outstanding playing career at NSU has been eclipsed by his coaching accomplishments. Lady Demon track and field great Peggy Lewis is also being enshrined.

Former Demon football player Barry Rubin, who has become one of the nation's most prominent figures in strength and conditioning training and is in his 18th year in the NFL, is receiving the Graduate N Club's Distinguished Service Award recognizing his outstanding accomplishments following his collegiate athletic career.

The Oct. 11 ceremony is open to the public at no charge. Bios of the 2014 honorees can be found in the on-line Lagniappe section of this magazine.

Evans recognized with Delaney support award

As a highlight of the annual Demon Legends Dinner bringing together many loyal supporters of Northwestern State athletics at the Horseshoe Casino and Hotel's Riverdome, former Demon defensive tackle and Natchitoches businessman John Evans was presented the Joe Delaney Distinguished Supporter Award. The award goes to a person who has a long track record of engagement with NSU Athletics, with involvement that is remarkable even as compared to other outstanding fans who back the Demons and Lady Demons.

Former football receiver Jack Serpas, a college teammate of Delaney's, was the initial recipient in 2012, while former Demon baseball infielder Mike Wilburn was presented the award at the 2013 Legends Dinner.

Evans, his wife Kris and their young children are mainstays at NSU home athletic events and are frequently in attendance for road games in various sports.

"From football games and volleyball matches to luncheons and special events, some of the most faithful fans at NSU athletic events have the last name of Evans," said Adam Jonson, executive director of the Demons Unlimited Foundation and associate athletics director at NSU. "The support from John and his family has been instrumental in helping make possible numerous projects for NSU Athletics. We were proud to name him this year's recipient of the Joe Delaney Distinguished Supporter Award."



John Evans speaks at the Demon Legends dinner.

Last spring, the second floor hallway in the athletic field-house, housing offices for football, baseball and track and field, was named "The Big John Evans Walk of Fame" with an array of colorful displays highlighting the history of those NSU sports decorating the walls.

Athletic programs earn grant to bolster academic initiatives

Northwestern State's athletic program has been awarded a three-year, \$780,000 Accelerating Academic Success Program grant from the NCAA, providing crucial support allowing NSU to enhance services for the nearly 400 student-athletes representing NSU in Division I competition.

University personnel across campus teamed up to help Northwestern secure the highly-competitive grant. The inaugural pilot program in 2013-14 distributed \$4.3 million to six NCAA FCS institutions.

Greg Burke, who marked the beginning of his 19th year as director of athletics by announcing the grant at the annual NSU/Independence Bowl Kickoff Luncheon in Shreveport on Aug. 20, was proud of the collaboration which culminated in the awarding of the grant, and excited about the opportunities it provides to student-athletes at Northwestern.

"This NCAA grant will further solidify the academic foundation which is a main cornerstone of the NSU athletic program. The funding will underwrite a myriad of initiatives which will further enhance positive NCAA Graduation Success Rates and Academic Progress Rates which have ranked NSU highly on both a state and conference level," said Burke. "While the competitive success level of NSU Athletics had been very good in the past couple of years, I know that our alumni share my belief that the number one goal for our student-athletes should be to perform well in the classroom and ultimately, to graduate. The AASP grant will help sustain, and even improve upon, those benchmarks."

"We are very proud of the teamwork which resulted in Northwestern State receiving this highly-competitive NCAA grant. We will benefit from a campus-wide committee of individuals who will work with our department over the next three years in implementing initiatives. Many of those individuals also participated in an hour-long videoconference with the NCAA's AASP selection committee, which was the final determining factor in our receiving funding."

—Burke

The participating schools are required to match grant dollars each year of the program with either direct funds and/or in-kind contributions. In the first year the school must commit a 25 percent match, 50 percent in year two and 75 percent in year three.

"The NCAA remains committed to the academic success of all student-athletes," said NCAA Executive Vice President Bernard Franklin. "These AASP grants allow the association to offer financial backing for projects that contribute measurable benefits to our campuses."

Some of the initiatives supported by the NCAA AASP grant include funding summer school for student-athletes, updating the Johnnie Emmons Academic Center, and adding an additional staff member to work with at-risk student-athletes, said Burke. There are benchmarks to reach each year to renew the grant, he said.



Guess Who

Pictured in the 1964 Potpourri, this couple from Many enjoyed themselves at the annual Freshman Watermelon Party. Can you name them? If so, call Leah Jackson at (318) 357-4553 or e-mail jacksonl@nsula.edu. The first five people with the correct answers will win a prize.

Answers to the Guess Who from the Summer edition of Alumni Columns, which pictured the State Fair Court from 1959 were Topper Watkins, Barbara Brown Crane, Queen Barbara Law, Yvonne Nettles and Marva Glover. On the back row are Sue Weir, Leah Story, Pat Linder and Margaret Ann Nolan.

People who correctly identified the Court are:

Susan Gallagher (1981)

Juanita Brumley (1961)

Gracie LeBlanc (1962)

Looking Back



Homecoming Week, 1988

The week included Ray Charles, Mr. Homecoming, an invisible parade, a 50th year reunion and a tailgate party that featured John Fred and the Playboys.

Ray Charles and the Raelettes performed before a capacity crowd at Prather Coliseum, performing a number of classic songs including "Georgia on My Mind" and "I Can't Stop Loving You" in a show sponsored by the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony Society.

The Student Activities Board sponsored a Mr. Homecoming pageant with Mark Newstrom taking top honors and Jason Labbe and Darryl Willis runners-up. Other contestants were Van Bush, Darryl Andrew, Scott Haley, Butch Poteet, Scott Dugas and Steve Wolfe. More than 200 spectators attended.

Friday's festivities included a parade kicking off from the Natchitoches riverbank with Mike McHale, SGA President; Carol Jordan, Miss LOB, and Van Bush, SAB vice president, leading the parade that ended with a pep rally in the parking lot of Prather Coliseum where senior football players escorted the court. Homecoming Queen Mary Miller was escorted by Mr. Homecoming Mark Newstrom. Members of the court were Liz Bonnette, Karen Engeron, Karen Guidry, Kirsten Gernhauser, Kim Wilson, Melody Smith, Cindy Bethel and Melissa Frank. Following the pep rally, Mike McHale delivered a eulogy for the Bobcat who was burned and a dance was held featuring D.J. Brent Brown.

Alumni of 1944 and 1938 gathered at reunions as younger alumni attended a tailgate party that featured John Fred and Playboys.



In Memory

- 1931 – Annie Duncan McFarland, July 13, 2014, El Dorado, Arkansas
- 1935 – Gladys Pittman Willis, July 24, 2014, Jena
- 1939 – Eula D. Mitchell, April 18, 2014, Shreveport
- 1940 – Lois Gellatly Salter, June 3, 2014, Houston
- 1950 – Archie F. Singletary Jr., March 15, 2013, Shreveport
- 1951 – Anne Freeze Paugh, Oct. 13, 2013, Miami, Florida
- 1951 – Jack Huckabay, July 11, 2014, Ringgold
- 1954 – John Samuel Brewton, April 17, 2014, Little Rock, Arkansas
- 1955 – Marion L. Smith Sr., Aug. 3, 2014, Selma, Alabama
- 1956 – Gene Stratton Porter, June 20, 2014, Winnfield
- 1957 – Marilyn Delaine Pippen Payne, June 30, 2014, Marshall, Texas
- 1958 – Katie Jean Myers Young, June 15, 2014, Baton Rouge
- 1960 – William R. LaCour, April 22, 2014, Panama City, Fla.
- 1964 – Carol Anne Givens Hamilton, Aug. 2, 2014, Webster, Texas
- 1965 – Jerry Burton, June 25, 2014, Shreveport
- 1974 – Catherine Andries Rankin, July 10, 2014, Many
- 1983 – Jeanmarie Sylvester DeVillier, June 15, 2014, Baytown, Texas
- 1986 – Dr. Joe Webb Burrage Jr., Feb. 19, 2014, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- 1993 – Kathleen Gettys, May 18, 2014, Eagle River, Alaska
- 1994 – Jonas R. Byles, June 7, 2014, Many
- 1995 – John Doughty Jr., July 1, 2014, Tullos
- 1996 – Lynda Faye Berry Cockerham, July 22, 2014, Baton Rouge
- 2003 – Charles Roland "Chuck" Weeks, May 22, 2014, Jena
- 2007 – Daniel Floyd Laroux, May 22, 2014, Robeline

Alumni and friends invited to join SON in Dublin for St. Patrick's Day parade

Alumni and friends are invited to join the Spirit of Northwestern Demon Marching Band as they participate in the 2015 St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, Ireland. The 8-day tour is \$2,500 per person and includes airfare, two meals per day, accommodations and some sightseeing tours in and around Dublin. The tour will depart from Houston on March 15 and return March 22.

Northwestern State's marching band was invited to participate in the parade, a highlight of a four-day St. Patrick's Festival in Dublin. More than 500,000 people view the parade on the streets of Dublin and thousands more watch on television. The parade includes international and Irish marching bands, performers, dancers and street theatre companies with colorful costumes, flamboyant performances and outstanding musical talent.

In addition to the St. Patrick's Day parade, the package includes tours of Dublin, Trinity College, the National Museum of Ireland, Ards Peninsula, Mount Stewart House and Gardens, Giant's Causeway, the walled city of Derry, Galway, the lakes of Sligo, the summit of Knocknarea, Rathburn Farm and the Cliffs of Moher with free time for individuals to explore on their own.

The trip is optional for band members. No band or university funding is provided and the cost is being paid for by individual members. The NSU band will receive no financial benefit from the trip.

For more information, contact Dr. Jeff Mathews, director of bands,
at (318) 357-4450 or e-mail mathewsj@nsula.edu.



Campus News



Caspari recognized as Preservation Success story

One of Northwestern State University's oldest buildings was named a Top 10 Preservation Success Story by the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation, an organization dedicated to education, preservation and restoration of historic sites and buildings throughout the state. LTHP made the announcement during the Louisiana Annual Preservation Conference, held in Natchitoches this week.

The announcement was made Thursday at the Natchitoches Events Center where the 18-member board of directors for the Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation held their annual conference.

Caspari Hall, first opened as a men's athletic dormitory in 1939, housed male students until its closure in 2003. The building is named for French-born businessman and politician Capt. Leopold Caspari who, while serving as state representative in 1884, spearheaded the campaign to establish the Louisiana State Normal School, now Northwestern State University, in Natchitoches.

After undergoing an extension renovation, the 16,842 square foot Caspari Hall reopened last year as an administrative center and is home to the office of the president, the office of the provost and vice president for Academic and Student Affairs, dean of the College of Arts, Letters, Graduate Studies and Research; Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Planning and Assessment and the internal auditor.

"In an effort to highlight the restoration and preservation needs and successes throughout the state, a committee takes nominations from various constituencies of the sites and buildings most endangered and those that have enjoyed a recent restoration."

—Dr. Dan Seymour, the local Trust Board member who nominated Caspari Hall for the honor, with assistance from Dr. Marcus Jones, vice president for University Affairs



Athletic News

Tynes Hildebrand

Continued from page 14

"Very few sports figures in Louisiana have played a more important role, for such a long time, than Tynes," said Don Landry, the 2009 Dixon Award winner. "I first knew him as a championship high school coach and then competed against him as a college basketball coach. We later worked together as athletic directors. When I was the commissioner of the Southland Conference, he was a leader that I could always count on. I appreciated his advice, counsel and loyalty. And finally I am amazed the he is still contributing to college athletics in his role in basketball officiating.

"Tynes was a mentor for so many young people and he helped so many become successful in their careers. He was always willing to share the knowledge that he had gained to guide these future leaders in college athletics," said Landry.

Those young people who began their professional careers as interns for Hildebrand at NSU include Greg Sankey, the executive associate commissioner of the Southeastern Conference; Greg Burke, wrapping up his 18th year as Hildebrand's successor in the AD's office at Northwestern; and Mark Molesworth, also in his 18th year as AD at Division III power Wisconsin-Platteville.

"No one really understands, unless you have done it yourself, how much time and commitment is involved in helping and supporting young people launch their career," said Sankey, who was Southland Conference commissioner from 1996-2002 and is now the No. 2 in command in the SEC behind commissioner Mike Slive.

"While Tynes was desperate for help in the Northwestern State athletics department, he was equally focused on helping us all learn and succeed. "It has been and still remains clear that he cares deeply about Northwestern State, Natchitoches and the state of Louisiana. To be clear, he wanted to play and beat all the other universities in the state, but he cared about the people associated with those campuses," said Sankey. "He was a great leader. Tynes let his coaches coach, he supported his staff in their work, and he provided leadership nationally and in the Southland Conference in ways that were critically important for both Northwestern State and the Southland."

NSU vice president Jerry Pierce, who was inducted in the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame in 2000 as a journalist, has known Hildebrand well for nearly 50 years. "He is gritty and competitive but also extremely compassionate and rational, which has always allowed him to keep things in a proper perspective. He could throw a folding chair across a basket-

ball court and a few minutes later share with a sports writer at the press table one of the corny jokes he liked to use as an after-dinner speaker.

"People who played for him, and worked for him and with him, appreciate and respect him not only as a coach and administrator but also as an individual who always had their

best interests at heart and did everything possible to help assure their success in life," said Pierce. "He has become a legendary sports figure in Louisiana both for his achievements in athletics and the esteem in which he is held by former players, coaching colleagues and others that have been fortunate enough to be associated with him over the years." Burke, like countless others in and outside athletics, can't imagine the direction his life and career would have taken without Hildebrand's influence.

"It has been my honor and privilege to have Coach Hildebrand as a friend and mentor for nearly 30 years. I, however, am far from being alone with that sentiment. From coast to coast, there are many, many others who have also benefitted from his influence and guidance," he said. "That is what makes it special to

see him so rightfully honored by the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame." Tom Burnett, who succeeded Sankey as Southland commissioner some six years after Hildebrand's last day as NSU's AD, said the conference owes much to Hildebrand's influence and continues to benefit from it.

"Tynes has served as a mentor and colleague for so many of us in the Southland Conference. More importantly, he's been a great friend to everyone that's crossed his path in athletics administration, and he's rightfully enshrined in the Southland's Hall of Honor," said Burnett. "Personally, he has always been a great resource for me on all matters, and I'm very honored to have had the opportunity to work with him and been fortunate to seek his advice on many occasions." Hildebrand's influence broadens as those he has personally mentored, like Molesworth, are helping shape careers of many more young people. "I can not go to a national meeting without running into a successful member of the fraternity who learned under Tynes Hildebrand. Daily, I still use many of the lessons I learned from him. I can say without a doubt he has been the greatest influence on my career," said the Ohio native, who interned at NSU in the late 1980s.

"Tynes is one of the most caring, honest and ethical people I have ever met. He is a great example of how we should conduct ourselves in college athletics."



Tynes Hildebrand

Student athletes log record hours of volunteer service

A school-record total of over 6,000 hours in community service was logged by Northwestern State student-athletes and athletic staff during the 2013-14 academic year.

Each of NSU's NCAA Division I sports teams participate in community service annually in a continuing series of projects benefitting causes ranging from on-campus initiatives to global endeavors. The Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, advised by academic counselors Carrie Greene and Kelee Roddy, manages the majority of the community service efforts, which resulted in 6,407 hours performed by NSU athletics competitors and staffers in 2013-14.

"Every year we challenge our athletic department to devote 5,000 hours of community service. Kelee and I are overjoyed to not only have met our goal, but to have greatly surpassed it. We couldn't be more proud of our student-athletes and administration," said Greene. "The community of Natchitoches does so much to support our student-athletes, the least we can do is devote time to supporting them in whatever ways we can. Teaching our student-athletes the value of service at this point in their lives is vital to their maturity and experience as they grow into adulthood."

Amy Williams, the returning president of the NSU SAAC and a senior Lady Demon tennis player from Leesville, said her peers take great pride in giving back through community service.

"My fellow student-athletes and I are thrilled to see that we achieved such a high number of hours. As SAAC members, we strive to make our service number increase each year. It is our pleasure to be able to help out with campus cleanups, community outreach programs, and a number of other fundraisers," she said. "We want to make a difference in our society, to focus on more than just our athletics and academics. Our SAAC team, along with all the student-athletes and administration, fully understand that the NSU community is the driving force behind our success, and we want to do everything we can to give back."

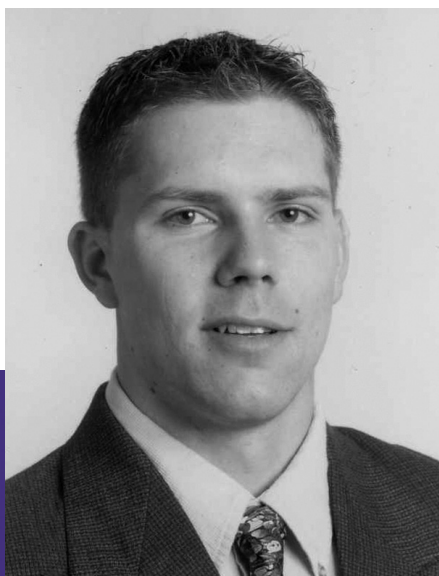
Williams and track and field competitor Quinton Helaire, a junior high jumper from Natchitoches, were the 2013-14 recipients of the Southland Conference Steve McCarty Citizenship Awards, winning the honors over nominees from the league's other 13 institutions.

Among the wide range of community service activities logged by NSU student-athletes include appearances at local and area schools and nursing homes, campus and city trash pickups, free sports clinics for kids, and aiding causes such as the Children's Miracle Network, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Women's Resource Gala, the Radio MASH Fundraiser providing toys for needy youth, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony, and events supporting the American Cancer Society, the American Heart Association, the Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, and mission trips to Africa, Haiti and Honduras.



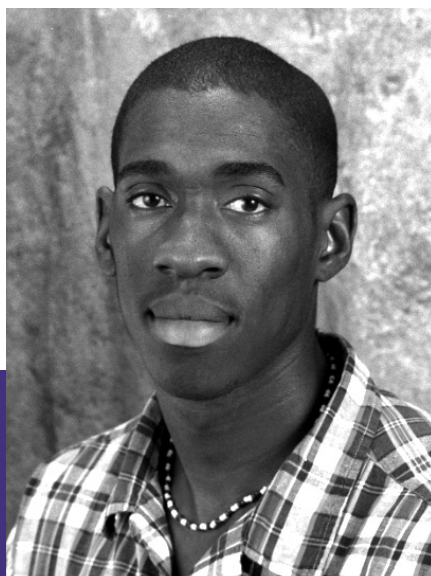
Graduate N Club Hall of Fame 2014 Induction Class

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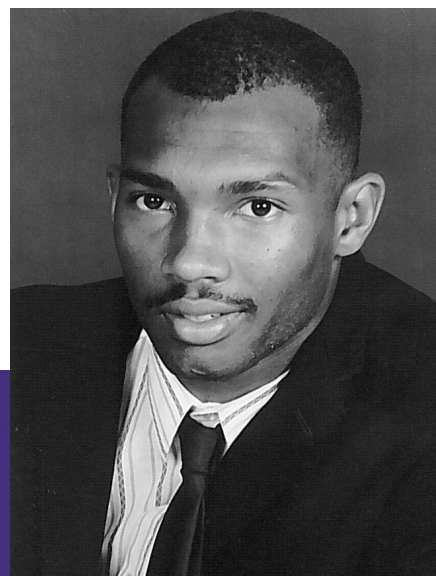
Ryan Anholt
(baseball, 1998-1999)

A 1998 All-American shortstop (third-team, American Baseball Coaches Association), he was a 1999 Academic All-American (third team) ... 1998 Southland Conference Newcomer and Player of the Year ... his career .368 batting average is fourth all-time at NSU ... set single-season school hits record with 88 in 1998 ... batted .417 as a JC transfer in '98 leading John Cohen's first NSU team to the Southland title ... Demons were 78-41 in his two seasons.



Kenta Bell
(track and field, 1996-2000)

A triple jumper for the USA in the 2004 and 2008 Olympics, Bell was the 2010 USA Outdoor champion in his specialty, and also won the 2003 USA Outdoor title ... runner-up at the 2008 Olympic Trials and at the 2005 and 2006 USA Outdoors and the 2006 USA Indoor Championships ... ranked as one of America's top ten triple jumpers from 2002-11 by Track & Field News ... as a Demon senior, Bell broke the Southland Conference indoor triple jump record and won the long jump to score 20 points at the conference championships ... ranks as the Southland Conference's second-best all-time indoor triple jumper following only 1984 Olympic gold medalist Al Joyner of Arkansas State.



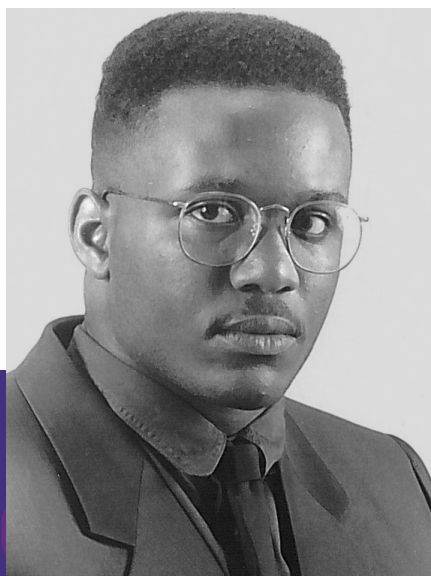
Adrian Hardy
(football, 1989-92)

Member of Top 100 Demon Players of All-Time roster chosen during 2007 Demon Football Centennial Celebration ... All-America cornerback in 1992, All-Southland Conference first team in his last two seasons ... first Demon to play in the Hula Bowl (when that all-star game was one of the two top ones, along with the East-West Shrine Game) ... Blocked 10 kicks in his career ... second-round 1993 NFL Draft pick (49ers), and played in 1994-95 in Cincinnati before his NFL career ended in three seasons.



Peggy Lewis
(women's track and field, 1988-91)

Won three Southland Conference shot put titles, 1988 Indoors and 1990, 1991 Outdoors ... won 1988 Southland Conference Indoor shot put (45-7 ¼), captured 1990 Outdoors at 47-1 ¼, then defended in 1991 with school record 48-5 ¼ that stood for seven years ... also held school discus mark (140-0) set at Texas Relays in 1990 ... All-Louisiana all four years in the shot put ... joined high jumper Janice Miller as the inaugural inductees on the Lady Demon Wall of Honor launched by then coach Chris Maggio.



Ed Moses
(football, 1990-93)

Member of Top 100 Demon Players of All-Time roster chosen during 2007 Demon Football Centennial Celebration ... "Top Cat" stands second all-time in career tackles at NSU with 431 as a four-year starting linebacker, making at least 100 stops each season ... All-Southland and All-Louisiana first team in his last two seasons ... forced six fumbles ... now an attorney in Baton Rouge.



Ed Orgeron
(football, 1980-83)

Member of Top 100 Demon Players of All-Time roster chosen during 2007 Demon Football Centennial Celebration ... Orgeron is one of college football's more dynamic personalities and highly-successful recruiters, most recently earning acclaim for a remarkable job as interim head coach at Southern Cal in 2013 ... a standout defensive end and tackle for the Demons from 1980-83, Orgeron made 121 tackles, including 17 for lost yardage, in his final two seasons ... was the first recipient of the Joe Delaney Leadership Award for Defense in 1983, awarded to the permanent team captain elected by his teammates. His recruiting and coaching has been a big factor in national championships won at Miami and Southern Cal ... had three seasons as head coach at Ole Miss.

Distinguished Service Award



Barry Rubin (football, 1978-80)

Former Demon tight end and punter who was one of 14 inaugural inductees in the USA Strength and Conditioning Coaches Hall of Fame in 2003 ... in his 18th season in the NFL, his second as head strength and conditioning coach for the Kansas City Chiefs after prior stint in same role with Philadelphia (2010-12) after spending 2008-09 as assistant coach with the Eagles ... was head strength coach for the Green Bay Packers from 1999-2005, and was assistant coach there from 1995-98 ... strength coach at Northeast Louisiana (1982-83, 1987-90 and 1994) and LSU (1984-85) ... played running back and punter at LSU in 1976, then transferred to Northwestern, where he set a school record in 1979 with a 75-yard punt ... Monroe native, Neville HS product ... named Jewish All-America tight end as a Demon.